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EXAMINER

AKERS, G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/151,617

Applicant(s)

Bezos et al

Examiner

Geoffrey Akers

Group Art Unit

2765

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 11, 1998

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☒ The drawing(s) filed on Sep 11, 1998 is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 7

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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DETAILED ACTION

Note: Applicant initially filed application with claims 1-34. Application was amended with new claims 35-52 added before review. Claims 1-52, are now pending.

1. Claims 1-52 have been examined.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because erasures, overwritings are not acceptable. The numbers and characters in Figures 1A-19 are not tall enough as well as not being uniformly thick, distinct and crisp. Correction is required.

Oath/Declaration

3. Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c). Corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 102 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1,3-9,12-14,17,19-23,25-31,34-35,37-39,42-44,47-48,51-52 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Montulli(US Pat. No: 5,826,242).
6. As per claim 1, Montulli teaches a computer-implemented method for ordering an item using a client system, the method comprising displaying information identifying the item at the client computer system(col 2 lines 24-32)(col 2 lines 57-59)(Fig 1/102)(Fig 6/140/142/144)(col 12 lines 3-9) and receiving from a user an indication of a recipient to whom the ordered item is to be delivered(col 13 lines 23-24) and displaying an indication of an action that is to be performed by the user to order the item(col 2 lines 61-64)(col 13 lines 7-13)(Fig 5/212/214/215/216/218/222/224/226) and in response to the indicated action being performed, sending to a server system an indication that the item is to be ordered(col 2 lines 64-67)(col 13 lines 15-17) and the indication of the recipient to whom the ordered item is to be delivered(col 13 lines 23-24) whereby when the server system does not have sufficient information for the indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item, the server system obtains additional information from one or more external information sources that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient(col 13 lines 22-24).

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7. As per claim 3 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the displaying of the information identifying the item and the displaying the indication of the action to be performed are performed before the receiving of the indication of the recipient from the user(col 6 lines 15-16)(Fig 2/130).
8. As per claim 4 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the client system and the server system communicate via the Internet(col 6 lines 21-23)(Fig 2).
9. As per claim 5 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein sending includes sending an identifier of the client system(col 5 lines 40-59).
10. As per claim 6 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the displaying is effected by displaying an HTML document provided by the server system(col 6 lines 9-15).
11. As per claim 7 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the action is a single action(col 6 lines 1-2).
12. As per claim 8 Montulli teaches the method of claim 7 wherein the single action is clicking a mouse button when a cursor is positioned over a predefined area of the display(col 12 lines 33-38).
13. As per claim 9 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by contacting the recipient directly(col 13 lines 22-24).
14. As per claim 12, Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by collecting information from one or more information sources selected from among an Internet-based telephone database, an Internet-based electronic mail

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database(col 12 lines 16-24)(col 12 lines 28-31)(Fig 5/212/214)(col 12 lines 47-49)(Fig 5/222)(col 13 lines 11-13), a local telephone database, a local electronic mail database, an Internet-based search engine(col 13 lines 15-30)(Fig. 5/240/230), and a database of information relating to the domain name registration of an electronic mail address of the recipient.

15. As per claim 13 Montulli teaches a computer-implemented method for ordering an item(Fig 5) the method comprising sending to a client system instructions to display information identifying the item(col 2 lines 24-32)(col 2 lines 57-59)(col 12 lines 3-9)(Fig 6/140/142/144) to input an indication of a recipient to whom the item is to be delivered(col 2 lines 61-62)(col 13 lines 23-24), and to send the indication of the recipient to the server system when an indicated single action is performed(col 13 lines 22-23) and after the indicated single action is performed, receiving the indication of the recipient from the client system(col 13 lines 26-29)(Fig. 5/240) and determining whether the server system does not have sufficient information for the indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item and when the server system does not have sufficient information, obtaining additional information from one or more information sources that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient from one or more information sources that are external to the server system(col 13 lines 22-24).

16. As per claim 14 Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by contacting the recipient directly(col 13 lines 20-29)(Fig 5/240/230).

17. As per claim 17, Montulli teaches the method of claim 14 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by collecting information from one or more information sources

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selected from among an Internet-based telephone database, an Internetbased electronic mail database(col 12 lines 16-24)(col 12 lines 28-31)(Fig 5/212/214)(col 12 lines 47-49)(Fig 5/222)(col 13 lines 11-13), a local telephone database, a local electronic mail database, an Internet-based search engine, and a database of information relating to the domain name registration of an electronic mail address of the recipient.

18. As per claim 19 Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein the displaying of the information identifying the item and the displaying the indication of the action to be performed are performed before the receiving of the indication of the recipient from the user(col 6 lines 15-16)(Fig 2/130).

19. As per claim 20 Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein the client system and the server system communicate via the Internet(col 6 lines 21-23)(Fig. 2).

20. As per claim 21 Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein receiving includes receiving an identifier of the client system(col 5 lines 40-59).

21. As per claim 22 Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein the instructions are within an HTML document(col 6 lines 7-10).

22. A computer-implemented method for ordering an item using a client system, the method comprising displaying information identifying the item at the client computer system(col 2 lines 24-32)(col 2 lines 57-59)(Fig 1/102)(col 12 lines 1-10)(Fig 6/142) and receiving from a user an identifier of a group of one or more recipients to whom the ordered item is to be delivered(col 2 lines 61-62)(col 13 line 23), the identified group having an indication of each recipient in the

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group and displaying an indication of an action that is to be performed by the user to order the item(col 2 lines 61-64)(col 13 lines 7-13)(Fig 5/240) and in response to the indicated action being performed, sending to a server system an indication that the item is to be ordered(col 2 lines 64-67) and the indication of each recipient in the group to whom the ordered item is to be delivered(col 13 lines 22-23) whereby when the server system does not have sufficient information for an indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item, the server system obtains additional information from one or more external information sources that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient(col 13 lines 22-24).

23. As per claim 25 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein the displaying of the information identifying the item and the displaying the indication of the action to be performed are performed before the receiving of the identifier of the group from the user(col 6 lines 15-16)(Fig 2/130).

24. As per claim 26 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein the client system and the server system communicate via the Internet(col 6 lines 21-23)(Fig. 2).

25. As per claim 27 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein sending includes sending an identifier of the client system(col 5 lines 40-59).

26. As per claim 28 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein the displaying is effected by displaying an HTML document provided by the server system(col 6 lines 9-15).

27. As per claim 29 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein the action is a single action(col 6 lines 1-2).

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28. As per claim 30 Montulli teaches the method of claim 29 wherein the single action is clicking a mouse button when a cursor is positioned over a predefined area of the display(col 12 lines 33-38).

29. As per claim 31 Montulli teaches the method of claim 29 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by contacting a recipient directly(col 13 lines 22-24).

30. As per claim 34 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the server system obtains the additional information by collecting information from one or more information sources selected from among an Internet-based telephone database, an Internetbased electronic mail database(col 13 lines 20-25), a local telephone database, a local electronic mail database, an Internet-based search engine, and a database of information relating to the domain name registration of an electronic mail address of the recipient.

31. As per claim 35 Montulli teaches a method in a computer system for coordinating the delivery a gift given by a gift giver to a recipient, the method comprising receiving an order from the gift giver(col 13 lines 15-17), the order identifying a gift to be delivered to the recipient(col 2 lines 64-67) and having contact information describing the recipient(col 13 lines 22-24) storing the received order in an order database and sending a communication to the recipient based on the contact information, the communication requesting delivery information for the gift(col 13 lines 22-24), when the recipient does not respond to the communications, collecting additional delivery information for the gift based on the contact information(col 13 lines 20-25) when potential delivery information for the gift has been identified, verifying whether the potential

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delivery information is valid(col 13 line 27) and when the delivery location has been verified as being valid(col 13 lines 28-30), sending the gift in accordance with the delivery information(Fig 5/240) and notifying the gift giver that the gift has been sent to the recipient.Montulli fails to teach that the received order is placed in an order database along with an order tracking number.It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a tracking number to locate the order. The purpose of this is to avoid loss of the order so as to complete the transaction.

32. As per claim 37 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 wherein the order is received via access through a Web page(col 13 lines 15-17).

33. As per claim 38 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 wherein the delivery information is an address and where the verifying includes checking a database of valid addresses to determine whether the address can be determined to be valid address(col 13 lines 20-25) and when the address can be determined to be a valid address, indicating that the delivery information has been verified(col 13 lines 28-30) and when the address cannot be determined to be a valid address, prompting a person to indicate whether the address is valid(col 13 lines 26-28) and when the person indicates that the address is valid, indicating that the delivery information has been verified(col 13 lines 28-30).

34. As per claim 39 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 wherein the collecting of additional delivery information includes collecting information from one or more information sources that include an Internet-based telephone database, an Internet-based electronic mail database(col 12

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lines 16-24)(col 12 lines 28-31)(Fig 5/212/214)(col 12 lines 47-49)(Fig 5/222), a local telephone database, a local electronic mail database, a database of previous recipients and gift givers, an Internet-based search engine, and a database of information relating to the domain name registration of an electronic mail address of the recipient.

35. As per claim 42 Montulli teaches a method in a computer system for coordinating delivery of a gift from a gift giver to a recipient, the gift and recipient being specified in a gift order(col 2 lines 24-32)(col 2 lines 57-59)(Fig 1/102), the method comprising determining whether the gift order includes sufficient information so that the gift can be delivered to the recipient(col 2 lines 64-67) and when sufficient information is not provided in the gift order, obtaining delivery information from one or more information sources(col 13 lines 20-25) and when sufficient delivery information can be obtained from the additional information sources so that the gift can be delivered to the recipient, directing the gift to be sent to the recipient as indicated by the delivery information(col 13 lines 24-29)(Fig 5/240).

36. As per claim 43 Montulli teaches the method of claim 42 including receiving the gift order electronically(col 13 lines 15-21).

37. As per claim 44 Montulli teaches the method of claim 42 wherein when the gift order contains information such that the recipient can be contacted, obtaining the delivery information by contacting the recipient directly(col 13 lines 21-24).

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38. As per claim 45 Montulli teaches the method of claim 44 wherein the recipient is contacted directly by sending an electronic mail(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214).

39. As per claim 47 Montulli teaches the method of claim 42 wherein the obtaining of delivery information includes collecting information from one or more information sources selected from among an Internet-based telephone database, an Internet-based electronic mail database(col 12 lines 16-31)(Fig 5/212/214)(Fig 5/222), a local telephone database, a local electronic mail database, a database of previous recipients and gift givers, an Internet-based search engine, and a database of information relating to the domain name registration of an electronic mail address of the recipient(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(Fig 5/212/214).

40. As per claim 48 Montulli teaches a computer-based gift delivery system for coordinating the delivery of a gift from a gift giver to a recipient, comprising an order entry component for providing a selection of available gifts(col 12 line 34-col 13 line 14) (Fig 6/212/214/215/216/218/222/2245/226/228), for receiving a selection of a gift, for receiving contact information describing the recipient(col 13 lines 22-24), and for storing the gift order; and a gift delivery component for retrieving the stored gift order(col 13 line 23), for determining whether the contact information includes sufficient delivery information to deliver the gift to the recipient, for when sufficient delivery information is not included, obtaining additional information about the recipient by attempting to contact the recipient and by searching various

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databases of information,(col 13 lines 20-25) and for directing the sending of the gift to the recipient when sufficient delivery information has been obtained(col 13 lines 24-29).

41. As per claim 51 Montulli teaches the gift delivery system of claim 48 wherein the order entry component receives payment electronically(col 13 line 22).

42. As per claim 52 Montulli teaches the gift delivery system of claim 48 wherein the order entry component is accessed via Web pages(col 13 lines 15-19).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

43. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2,10,11,15,16,18,24,32,33,36,40,41,45,46,49,50 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Montulli(US Pat. No: 5,826,242).

44. As per claim 2 Montulli teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the indication of the recipient is a URL(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one

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skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

45. As per claim 10 Montulli teaches the method of claim 9 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via a network (Fig 5/214/218/224) (col 2 lines 38-41) (col 2 lines 57-67) (col 6 lines 1-14). Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

46. As per claim 11 Montulli teaches the method of claim 9 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via Internet communications over a network (col 4 lines 38-52) (col 5 lines 40-49) (col 2 lines 38-41) (Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach that the recipient is contacted via a voice telephone call. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate telephone contact as a means of reaching the recipient. The motivation for this is to obtain real time confirmation of the transaction. Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It also would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

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47. As per claim 15 Montulli teaches the method of claim 14 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via a URL address and a network.(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

48. As per claim 16 Montulli teaches the method of claim 14 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via electronic mail(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 2 lines 38-41)(Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach that the recipient is contacted via a voice telephone call. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate telephone contact as a means of reaching the recipient. The motivation for this is to obtain real time confirmation of the transaction

49. As per claim 18, Montulli teaches the method of claim 13 wherein the indication of the recipient is a URL address(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

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50. As per claim 24 Montulli teaches the method of claim 23 wherein the indication of a recipient is an electronic mail address(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system.The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

51. As per claim 32 Montulli teaches the method of claim 31 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via a network and a URL address(col 4 lines 38-52)(Fig 5/212/214/218/224)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 2 lines 57-67)(col 6 lines 1-14)(col 5 lines 62-67).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system.The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

52. As per claim 33 Montulli teaches the method of claim 31 wherein the recipient is contacted directly via e-mail(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 2 lines 38-41)(Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach that the recipient is contacted via a voice telephone call.It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate telephone contact as a means of reaching the recipient. The motivation for this is to obtain real time confirmation of the transaction.

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53. As per claim 36 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 wherein the sending of a communications includes electronic communications in the Internet(col 2 lines 57-67)(col 6 lines 1-14)(col 5 lines 40-49)(Fig 5/212/214)(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41).Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system.The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

54. As per claim 40 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 wherein the communications is an e-mail to the recipient. Montulli fails to teach that a telephone call is placed to the recipient.It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate telephone contact as means of reaching the recipient. The motivation for this is real time confirmation of the transaction.

55. As per claim 41 Montulli teaches the method of claim 35 addressing when the gift is delivered to the recipient(col 13 lines 22-24). Montulli fails to teach including when the gift cannot be delivered to the recipient, notifying the gift giver that the gift cannot be delivered.It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate also notifying the gift giver when the gift cannot be delivered as well as when it can. The motivation for this is to complete the transaction information for all possibilities.

56. As per claim 45 Montulli teaches the method of claim 44 wherein the recipient is contacted directly by Internet communications to a URL address(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5

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lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 62-67)(Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

57. As per claim 46 Montulli teaches the method of claim 44 wherein the recipient is contacted directly by e-mail(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 40-49)(col 5 lines 62-67)((Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach that the recipient is contacted by a voice telephone call. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate telephone contact as a means of reaching the recipient. The motivation for this is to obtain real time confirmation of the transaction

58. As per claim 49 Montulli teaches the gift delivery system of claim 48 wherein the order entry component includes billing information and recipient address for delivery(col 13 lines 21-23). Montulli fails to teach that the order entry component assigns an order tracking identification label to each gift order and wherein the gift delivery component includes the order tracking identification when attempting to contact the recipient. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate an order tracking information element. The motivation for this is to avoid loss of the order in the completion of the transaction.

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59. As per claim 50 Montulli teaches the gift delivery system of claim 48 wherein the gift delivery component searches various Internet-based databases using the recipient name or URL address(col 4 lines 38-52)(col 2 lines 38-41)(col 5 lines 24-36)(col 5 lines 40-49)(Fig 5/212/214). Montulli fails to teach the utilization of e-mail addresses. Montulli teaches browser-based electronic network communications. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to apply these techniques to a windows-based mail system. The motivation for this is to enable communication with a user at an e-mail address.

Conclusion

60. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Wilf teaches a retail method over a wide area network
- Koreeda teaches an on-line shopping system and the method of payment
- Blinn teaches an electronic shopping and merchandising system
- Allsop teaches performing electronic commerce on the internet
- Cupps teaches internet online order method and apparatus
- Wiecha teaches a system for ordering items over computer network using electronic catalog
- Sugiyama teaches a home terminal and shopping system
- Rofrano teaches using virtual sales personnel for an electronic catalog

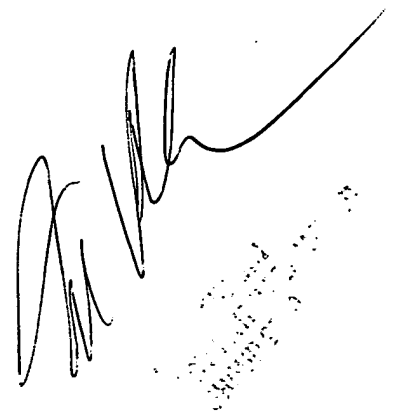
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- Kenny teaches an interactive electronic shopping system and method
- Webber teaches a system for real time shopping
- Nishioka teaches an electronic shopping method
- Kaneko teaches an on-line shopping system
- Diangelo teaches a universal web shopping cart
- Petrovich teaches a personal shopping system portable terminal
- Yoda teaches a method and system for ordering products
- Chelliah teaches a computer system for electronic commerce
- Payne teaches a network sales system

Any questions regarding this communication should be addressed to the examiner, Dr. Geoffrey Akers who can be reached between the hours of 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Thursday at (703)-306-5844. If attempts to contact the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tod Swann can be telephoned at (703)-308-7791.

GRA

August 28, 2000

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Geoffrey Akers', is written over a faint, circular official stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.